

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please amend the drawings as follows:

In FIG. 5, in step 512, please change "<" to --≤--, to conform to page 21, paragraph [1078] of the specification.

In FIG. 6, in step 620, please change "+" to -- - --, to conform to page 23, paragraph [1094] of the specification.

In FIG. 7, in the last step, please change "INITIATION" to --INITIALIZATION--.

In FIG. 8, please label the curve --C-- to conform to page 25, paragraph [1108] in the specification.

In FIG. 9, please delete the "W" to the left of "FILTERED RPC MEAN".

In FIG. 13, please add --FILTERED-- above "RPC MEAN".

In FIG. 10,

in step 1016, please change " $FL_ND_S(COUNT) > FL_D_SS + FL_TH$ " to -- $FL_D_NS(COUNT) > FL_D_SS + FL_SINR_Th$ --, to conform to page 27, paragraph [1121] in the specification;

in step 1018, please change "CREDIT_UP_STEP" to --CREDIT_UP--, to conform to page 27, paragraph [1122] in the specification;

in step 1020, please change " $CS_NS(COUNT) + CREDIT_DN_STEP$ " to -- $CS_NS(COUNT) - CREDIT_DN$ --, to conform to page 27, paragraph [1123] in the specification; and

in step 1022, please change " $NS_TH(COUNT)$ " to -- $NS_Th(COUNT)$ --, to confirm to page 28, paragraph [1124] in the specification.

In FIG. 14, please delete "A" in the bottom left region.

In FIG. 15, in step 1504, please change "FROM DRC DEMODULATION PROCESSING" to --GENERATE UPDATED DRC--; and

in step 1520, please change ">" to --≥--.

Replacement sheets for FIGs. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 15 are enclosed herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 1-98 are pending in the application. In the foregoing amendments, claims 11, 85, 88 have been amended to correct typographical and formal errors. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification and claims of the application as filed. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Applicants wish to express appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended during a telephone interview with the undersigned. Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments above and the remarks below

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejected claims 1-7, 9, 16-22, 24, 27-38, 40-52, 56-72, 74-86, and 90-98 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rohani (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,522).

Rohani discloses measuring reverse link signals received *at a plurality of sectors of a base station*, comparing the received reverse link signal levels with that received at the sector that is transmitting the forward link signal to a mobile station, and determining the candidate set for the mobile station accordingly.

Rohani, however, fails to teach or suggest “determining at the subscriber station a forward link quality metric for each sector in the subscriber station’s list; determining at the subscriber station a quality related to a reverse link quality metric for each sector in the subscriber station’s list; and directing communication between the subscriber station and one sector from the sectors in the subscriber station’s list in accordance with said determined forward link quality metrics and said determined qualities related to a reverse link quality metric,” as recited in independent claim 1, 16, or 31 (emphasis added). Thus, Applicants submit that claims 1, 16, and 31 are allowable over Rohani. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Rohani further fails to teach or suggest “determining at the subscriber station a forward link quality metric for each sector in the subscriber station’s list; determining a forward link de-rating value for at least one sector in the subscriber station’s list; assigning credits to each sector

in the subscriber station's list except the sector currently serving the subscriber station in accordance with said forward link quality metric and said forward link de-rating value; and directing communication between the subscriber station and one sector from the sectors in the subscriber station's list in accordance with said determined forward links quality metrics and said at least one determined forward link de-rating value," as recited in independent claim 32, 65, or 66 (emphasis added). Thus, Applicants submit that claims 32, 65, and 66 are allowable over Rohani. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7, 9, 17-22, 24, 27-30, 33-38, 40-52, 56-64, 67-72, 74-86, and 90-98 each depend from one of independent claims 1, 16, 31, 32, 65, and 66 and therefore, are allowable as well. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 8, 23, 39, and 73 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rohani in view of Miya *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,480,479); claims 53 and 87 as being unpatentable over Rohani in view of Bose (U.S. Patent No. 4,477,809); and claims 54, 55, 88, and 89 as being unpatentable over Rohani in view of Chien *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,474).

Claims 8, 23, 39, 73, 53, 87, 54, 55, 88, and 89 each depend from one of independent claims 1, 16, 31, 32, 65, and 66 and therefore are also allowable as well, for at least the reasons given above. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of these claims be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that claims 10-15, 25, and 26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 10-15, 25, and 26 each depend from one of independent claims 1 and 16 and therefore are also allowable, for at least the reasons given above with respect to claims 1 and 16.

A statement of reasons for claims 10 and 25 being allowable was set forth by the Examiner in the Office Action. While Applicants agree that these claims are allowable for at

least the reasons set forth in the Examiner's statement, Applicants submit that the invention as recited by the claims and as described in the present application is patentable over the art of record for reasons in addition to those listed in the Examiner's statement. Accordingly, Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of different scope from those in the present application.

Drawings

Applicants submit that the above amendments to the drawings do not make any substantive changes or introduce any new material, but are simply the correction of typographical errors. Applicants further submit that the amendments are consistent with the specification as originally submitted. Therefore, approval and entry of the above amendments are respectfully requested.

Specification

Applicants provide herewith amendments to the specification. The amendments to the specification are made by presenting marked-up replacement paragraphs which identify changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

The changes made are primarily typographical or grammatical in nature, or involve minor clarifications of some wordings.

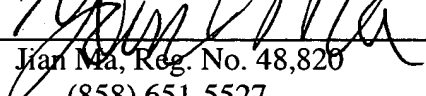
Applicants believe these changes add no new matter to the Application and are fully supported by the original disclosure.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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